

Sheffield 12. June 1781

Dear Sir,

During the present Session of the General Court a memorial will be presented on the Subject of the removal of Fellows also late Sheriff from his Office. his Character is too well known to you to require a Delimitation from me. The Causes which operated to his removal are likewise well known, as also the Violence and indeed Violence of Party Rage amongst us. a number of Affidavits have been secretly taken, I know not their Contents, but by report; however I believe the coloring must beyond what a strict regard to Truth will justify.

In the memorial the Character of ~~the~~ the Sheriff is treated with great Delicacy, any Retrospect in that regard might, it was thought, tend to revive ancient Animosity; he however was the leader of the People who prevented the sitting of the Superior Court here in 1779. — I am not particularly acquainted with him, but can't think the appointing a man, [if simply considered] to uphold and preserve Government, who



who for years has exerted himself in Opposition to it,  
can reflect much Honor on those who appointed him.  
but when this appointment removes a man whose  
(character is unexceptionable), who has exerted himself on  
every Occasion for the support of the Cause of his Country,  
who has done and suffered much in this Cause, such  
an Appointment under such circumstances has produced  
great Chagrine and uneasiness. I wish for nothing more  
than Justice, I am too well acquainted with your Feelings  
not to know that you warmly resent Insult offered to  
merit so conspicuous as that of T. Mowat. I am convinced  
that nothing ~~can~~ create in you more disagreeable sensations,  
than those actions which may be construed as evidence  
of Ingratitude to the faithful servants of the public. —

A Petition will be presented this Spring  
signed W. M. Goodrich — Grant & Moses Hopkins, the  
latter of those Gentlemen is a very worthy man, he  
has desired me to recommend it to the Patronage of some  
Gentleman at the Genl. Court who is capable of giving  
it assistance — you will confer an high Obligation  
on me, (if you think the Contents worthy attention) by  
giving



Aid to a favorable Answer to its Prayer. —

with very respectful Complts. to M<sup>rs</sup> Lowell

I am Dear Sir,

with much Truth & Return,

Your most obed<sup>t</sup>. & most hum<sup>l</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>.

Theodore Tilton

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MS. 127

fav. by the  
Honble M. *by*

*by*

*W. W. W.*

*very dear &  
affectionate  
friend*